## Message Text

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**ACTION EB-11** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03 DOTE-00 DRC-01

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R 081850Z NOV 73 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4636 INFO FAA WASHDC FAA BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRN, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: POTENTIAL SALE OF GULFSTREAM II TO GOF

## FOR STATE AND COMMERCE

- 1. FAA REPRESENTATIVE HAS BEEN INFORMED BY DASSAULT REPRESENTATIVE THAT FRENCH GOVERNMENT IN PROCESS OF SELECTIG NEW PRESIDENTIAL PLANE HAVING TRANSATLANTIC RANGE AND CAPACITY FOR 20/30 PASSENGERS. DASSAULT'S FALCON 20 DOES NOT HAVE RANGE, NOR IS DC-8 SATIS-FACTORY BECAUSE OF SUPPORT IT REQUIRES AND NON-ACCESSIBILITY TO SMALLER AIRFIELDS.
- 2. GRUMMAN GULFSTREAM II OF THE TYPE FLOWN HERE BY FAA ADMINISTRATOR DURING PARIS AIR SHOW WOULD, IN THE OPINION OF PRESIDENTIAL PILOT, CAPTAIN LATHIERE, MEET THE REQUIRED CHARACTERISTICS. THE LATTER WOULD WELCOME CHANCE TO FLY GULFSTREAM IF ONE COMES THIS WAY.
- 3. DASSAULT CURRENTLY MANUACTURING FALCON PROTOTYPE WITH REQUIRED RANGE BUT NOT EXPECTED BE CERTIFICATED UNTIL 1976.

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## 4. EMBASSY SUGGESTS COMMERCE

APPRISE GRUMMAN OF POSSIBLE GOF INTEREST. IDEAL ARRANGEMENT, OF COURSE, WOULD BE IF SOME MEANS COULD BE FOUND TO ENABLE CAPTAIN LATHIERE TEST FLY A GULFSTREAM AT SOME EARLY OPPORTUNITY, SINCE FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION FROM HIM MIGHT WEIGH HEAVILY IN INFLUENCING GOF DECISION. MOREOVER, IN VIEW MANNER IN WHICH THIS QUESTION HAS COME TO OUR ATTENTION, INDIRECT FOLLOW-UP VIA CAPTAIN LATHIERE WOULD PROBABLY BE PREFERABLE TO MORE FORMAL APPROACH TO GOF BY GRUMMAN. COMMERCE HARDLY NEEDS REMINDING THAT CURRENT PROBLEMS OF FRENCH AERONAUTICAL INDUSTRY WOULD MAKE PURCHASE OF AMERICAN AIRCRAFT FOR USE OF FRENCH PRESIDENT A SUBJECT OF SOME SENSITIVITY IN FRANCE. FACT THAT NO FRENCH OR OTHER EUROPEAN AIRCRAFT HAS DESIRED PERFORMANCE SPECS MIGHT, HOWEVER, ENABLE GOF TO RATIONALIZE JUSTIFICATION OF PURCHASE. EMBASSY ALSO SUGGESTS MIGHT BE ADVISABLE IN ANY GRUMMAN FOLLOW-UP WITH GOF TO AVOID IDENTIFYING DASSAULT AS SOURCE OF INFO RE POSSIBLE FRENCH PRESIDENCY INTEREST (THOUGH WE UNDERSTAND THAT OUR SOURCE AT DASSAULT IS PLANNING CONTACT DIRECTLY VOGELEY ON GRUMMAN'S SAVANNAH, GA. STAFF WHO IS OLD FRIEND). **IRWIN** 

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